5 Affordable Alternatives to the Celestron NexStar 130SLT

Explore these 5 affordable alternatives to the Celestron NexStar 130SLT for your stargazing needs. Perfect for all experience levels!

£499.00 ~~RRP £549.99~~

Save £50.99 (9%)

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1. **Usogood 10X42 Monocular Telescope High Power** - Priced at £27.99, this compact monocular is perfect for beginners who want to explore both terrestrial and celestial sights without the bulk of a traditional telescope. With a 42mm objective lens and BAK4 prisms, it offers clear images and decent light-gathering ability. However, it's not a direct substitute for the NexStar 130SLT's astrophotography capabilities or the detailed views of planets and deep-sky objects provided by a larger aperture telescope. This option is ideal for casual stargazers or hikers who want a lightweight, portable option for occasional viewing.

1. **Celestron 31045 AstroMaster 130EQ** - At £275.00, this telescope is a solid alternative for those who appreciate the classic Newtonian design. With a similar 130mm aperture, it offers great light-gathering power for viewing planets and star clusters. The main difference lies in the mount; the AstroMaster uses a manual equatorial mount, which requires a bit more setup and practice compared to the computerized NexStar. This telescope is better suited for those who want to delve deeper into the art of manual tracking and enjoy a more hands-on approach to astronomy.

1. **Telescopes for Adults Astronomy, 80mm Aperture 600mm Refractor** - Available for just £99.99, this refractor telescope is a fantastic entry-level option for beginners and families. While its 80mm aperture is smaller than the NexStar 130SLT, it allows for easy setup and portability, making it ideal for younger astronomers. The downside is that it won’t capture as much detail in faint objects as the larger 130mm

reflector. If you’re looking for an affordable, user-friendly telescope to introduce kids or casual observers to the night sky, this is a wonderful choice.

1. **Celestron 31042 AstroMaster 114EQ** - Priced at £249.00, this 114mm Newtonian reflector offers a balanced option for those wanting more than an entry-level telescope without breaking the bank. While it has a slightly smaller aperture than the NexStar 130SLT, it still provides good light-gathering capabilities for viewing the Moon and planets. The manual equatorial mount is a learning curve, but it offers an excellent platform for those eager to learn the ropes of astronomical observation. Choose this option if you’re willing to invest time in mastering telescope operation while still enjoying decent views of the night sky.

1. **Celestron 22087 NexStar 90SLT-Mak** - Retailing at £349.49, this Maksutov-Cassegrain telescope offers a compact design and excellent optics for planetary and lunar observations. Its smaller 90mm aperture means it won’t gather as much light as the 130mm reflector, but it excels in portability and ease of use. The computerized mount mirrors the functionality of the NexStar 130SLT, making it a great option for those who prefer a more compact design without sacrificing the convenience of a computerised system. If space and portability are your primary concerns, this is the right choice for you.

Still Buy the Original If...

If you're looking for a well-rounded telescope that excels in both ease of use and performance, the NexStar 130SLT is still the best choice, especially if you plan to engage in astrophotography or need a reliable, automated setup.

Read the full review with live prices and price history at allthetoppicks.com

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